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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3636
Examiner : A. Barfield
Serial No. : 09/560,686
Filed : April 27, 2000
Inventors : H. Robert Tiffany, III
: Barbara Y. Tiffany
Title : FURNITURE



22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 1370-01

Date: June 26, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

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Amendment Transmittal Letter, in duplicate

Claim of Extension of Time, in duplicate

Amendment

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date appearing below.

Name of Applicant, Assignee, Applicant's Attorney
or Registered Representative:

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Customer No. 022469

By: _____

Date: _____

26 JUNE 2002



Attorney Docket No.: 1370-01

In re Application of H. Robert Tiffany, III et al.

Serial No.: 09/560,686

Filed: April 27, 2000

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

- Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR §1.9 and §1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR §1.9 and §1.27 is enclosed.
- No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)

(Col. 2) (Col. 3)

SMALL ENTITY

OTHER THAN
SMALL ENTITY

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PRE- VIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL	* 16	-	** 20 =	0
INDEP.	* 3	-	*** 3 =	0
First presentation of multiple dependent claim				

RATE	ADD'L FEE
x 9=	\$
x42=	\$
+140=	\$

OR

RATE	ADD'L FEE
x18=	\$
x84=	\$
+280=	\$

TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE \$0 OR \$ _____

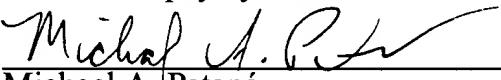
* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- Please charge my Deposit Account No. 13-3405 in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- A check in the amount of \$ _____. is attached.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3405. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
 - Any filing fees under 37 CFR §1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
 - Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 with the exception of the Issue Fee which we intend to pay by check.



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3'
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 21, 2002, Applicants amend as follows:

Marked up Version in the Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A furniture piece, which comprises:
a plurality of rib units, each of which has (i) at least one functional surface such that a composite of each of the at least one functional surface of the plurality of rib units defines a functional surface of said furniture piece, and (ii) at least one a single supporting member configured according to a pattern which varies from one rib unit to another such that a composite of the supporting members provides support for said furniture piece and its occupantsload wherein each rib has a front and a rear, and said support member in each rib emanates consistently among the rib units from either a front or rear portion

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thereof;

interconnecting means for securing each of the rib units to the others; and
spacer means for situating each of the rib units in a position which, when
secured by the interconnecting means, is separated from each of the adjoining rib units.

13. (Amended) A furniture piece comprising:

a plurality of interconnected rib units, each further comprising:

a first functional member defining a first functional surface for
performing a first composite function for said furniture piece;
a supporting member emanating consistently from either a front or rear
portion of each rib unit;

wherein each supporting member of each rib unit is angularly displaced from
saidits corresponding first functional member, independently of the remaining support
members of said plurality of rib units; and

wherein said plurality of rib units are interconnected such that the
independently angled support members define a pattern such that the composite of the
supporting members provides support for said furniture piece and its potential occupants.

16. (Amended) A furniture piece comprising:

a plurality of interconnected rib units, each comprising:

a functional surface such that a composite of the functional surface of
each of said plurality of rib units defines a functional surface of said furniture piece; and

a supporting member emanating consistently from either a front or a rear portion of each rib unit; and

wherein each said supporting member is configured according to a pattern, with respect to adjacent supporting members, to define a composite supporting member which provides support for said furniture piece and its potential occupants.